

Claim Amendments

1) (Cancelled)

2) (Currently Amended) The surgical instrument of Claim [[1]]6, further comprising:

the illumination optic fiber having a tapered tip at the illumination optic fiber distal end.

3) (Original) The surgical instrument of Claim 2, further comprising:
the illumination optic fiber tapered tip projecting outwardly from the tip distal end.

4) (Original) The surgical instrument of Claim 2, further comprising:
the illumination optic fiber tapered tip having a conical configuration.

5) (Cancelled)

6) (Currently Amended) ~~The surgical instrument of Claim 5, further comprising:~~ A surgical instrument that provides both illumination light and laser light to a surgical site, the surgical instrument comprising:
a manually manipulatable handle;
a tubular tip secured to the handle, the tip projecting from the handle to a distal end of the tip;

an illumination optic fiber having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, the illumination optic fiber extending through the handle and the tip to the illumination optic fiber distal end positioned adjacent the tip distal end, the illumination optic fiber being secured stationary relative to the tip;

a laser optic fiber having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, the laser optic fiber extending through the handle and the tip to the laser optic fiber distal end positioned adjacent the tip distal end and the illumination optic fiber distal end;

a mechanism on the handle, the mechanism being operatively connected to the laser optic fiber to move the laser optic fiber through the handle and the tip between a retracted position of the laser optic fiber where the laser optic fiber distal end is positioned adjacent the tip distal end and the illumination optic fiber distal end, and an extended position of the laser optic fiber where the laser optic fiber distal end is extended from the tip distal end and the illumination optic fiber distal end;

a portion of the laser optic fiber adjacent the laser optic fiber distal end having a curved configuration; and,

a curved sleeve is mounted on the laser optic fiber distal end portion, and the curved sleeve holds the laser optic fiber distal end portion in the curved configuration.

7) (Currently Amended) ~~The surgical instrument of Claim 1, further comprising:~~ A surgical instrument that provides both illumination light and laser light to a surgical site, the surgical instrument comprising:

a manually manipulatable handle;

a tubular tip secured to the handle, the tip projecting from the handle to a distal end of the tip;

an illumination optic fiber having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, the illumination optic fiber extending through the handle and the tip to the illumination optic fiber distal end positioned adjacent the tip distal end, the illumination optic fiber being secured stationary relative to the tip;

a laser optic fiber having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, the laser optic fiber extending through the handle and the tip to the laser optic fiber distal end positioned adjacent the tip distal end and the illumination optic fiber distal end;

a mechanism on the handle, the mechanism being operatively connected to the laser optic fiber to move the laser optic fiber through the handle and the tip between a retracted position of the laser optic fiber where the laser optic fiber distal end is positioned adjacent the tip distal end and the illumination optic fiber distal end, and an extended position of the laser optic fiber where the laser optic fiber distal end is extended from the tip distal end and the illumination optic fiber distal end;

the handle having a forward piece and a rearward piece, the rearward piece being connected to the forward piece for relative rotation of the forward piece and the rearward piece;

the tip being mounted on the handle forward piece for relative movement of the tip and the handle forward piece; and,

the mechanism being on the handle forward piece.

8) (Original) The surgical instrument of Claim 7, further comprising:

the illumination optic fiber and the laser optic fiber are secured to the handle rearward piece for rotation of the illumination optic fiber and the laser optic fiber with the handle rearward piece relative to the handle forward piece and the tip.

9) (Original) A surgical instrument that provides both illumination light and laser light to a surgical site, the surgical instrument comprising:

an elongate handle having opposite proximal and distal ends, the handle having an interior bore with an interior surface extending through the handle from the handle proximal end to the handle distal end, and the handle having an exterior surface with a cavity recessed into the exterior surface, the cavity intersecting the handle center bore and having opposite proximal and distal ends;

an elongate tubular tip having opposite proximal and distal ends, the tip having an interior bore with an interior surface extending through the tip from the tip proximal end to the tip distal end, the tip proximal end being secured in the handle interior bore at the handle distal end;

an elongate sleeve having opposite proximal and distal ends, the sleeve having an interior bore that extends through the sleeve between the sleeve proximal and distal ends, the sleeve being mounted in the handle interior bore and in the handle cavity for reciprocating movement of that sleeve through the handle interior bore and the handle cavity;

a finger tab in the handle cavity and secured to the sleeve, the finger tab extending out of the handle cavity and beyond the handle exterior surface, the finger tab being movable in the handle cavity between a rearward position where the finger tab is adjacent the cavity proximal end, and a forward position where the finger tab is adjacent the cavity distal end, the finger tab moving the sleeve toward the handle distal end when the finger tab is moved from the rearward position to the forward position, and the finger tab moving the sleeve toward the handle proximal end when the finger tab is moved from the forward position to the rearward position;

an illumination optic fiber having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, the illumination optic fiber proximal end being adapted to be attached to a separate illumination light source to transmit illumination light through the illumination optic fiber to the illumination optic fiber distal end, the illumination optic fiber extending through the handle interior bore, through the sleeve interior bore, and through the tip interior bore to the illumination optic fiber distal end positioned adjacent the tip distal end, the illumination optic fiber being secured stationary relative to the handle and the tip; and

a laser optic fiber having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, the laser optic fiber proximal end being adapted to be attached to a separate laser light source to transmit laser light through the laser optic fiber to the laser optic fiber distal end, the laser optic fiber extending through the handle interior bore, through the sleeve interior bore, and through the tip interior bore to the laser optic fiber distal end positioned adjacent the tip distal end when the finger tab is in the rearward position, the laser optic fiber being secured to the sleeve, and a portion of the laser optic fiber

adjacent the laser optic fiber distal end being extended from the tip distal end when the finger tab is moved from the rearward position toward the forward position.

10) (Original) The surgical instrument of Claim 9, further comprising:
the illumination optic fiber having a tapered tip at the illumination optic fiber distal end.

11) (Original) The surgical instrument of Claim 10, further comprising:
the illumination optic fiber tapered tip projecting outwardly from the tip distal end.

12) (Original) The surgical instrument of Claim 10, further comprising:
the illumination optic fiber tapered tip having a conical configuration.

13) (Original) The surgical instrument of Claim 9, further comprising:
a portion of the laser optic fiber adjacent the laser optic fiber distal end having a curved configuration.

14) (Original) The surgical instrument of Claim 13, further comprising:
a curved sleeve is mounted on the laser optic fiber distal end portion, and
the curved sleeve holds the laser optic fiber distal end portion in the curved configuration.

15) (Original) The surgical instrument of Claim 9, further comprising:

the handle having a forward piece and a rearward piece, the rearward piece being connected to the forward piece for relative rotation between the forward piece and the rearward piece;

the tip being mounted on the handle forward piece for relative movement of the tip and the handle forward piece; and,

the finger tab and cavity being on the handle forward piece.

16) (Original) The surgical instrument of Claim 15, further comprising:

the illumination optic fiber and the laser optic fiber are secured to the handle rearward piece for rotation of the illumination optic fiber and the laser optic fiber with the handle rearward piece relative to the handle forward piece and the tip.